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UPDATE



2008



To the Child Care Community

The fall season is here! We are into the sixteenth year of our efforts to keep the child care community informed about licensing programs and services. The Updates continue to be an important method for sharing information. We appreciate your support in sharing these Updates with those in your organization and others interested in child care issues.

Those of you who receive these Updates via email can find the topic of your choice in each Update without having to scroll down. Just put your cursor over the blue highlighted subject heading that you wish to review, hold down the control and shift buttons at the same time, and you will be taken to that area of the Update.

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LICENSING MANAGEMENT CHANGES

We are pleased to announce that Rey Pennywell has been selected to fill the Inland Empire Child Care Regional Manager position.

Most recently, Rey has been working in the Senior Care Program as a Licensing Program Manager. He has been in this position since early 2006. He has become a key player in the senior community as well as with his staff who have been focusing on the many challenges, innovations and solutions inherent with the Licensing mission. For eight years prior, he was a Licensing Program Analyst working out of the Riverside and Orange Senior Care offices where his distinguishable effectiveness was acknowledged by his promotion.

His work experience combines with his wealth of personal experiences, which will serve him well in his new position with Child Care. Please join me in welcoming Rey and wishing him the best of luck in his new position.

GOAL SETTING—FORMULA FOR SUCCESS

The Community Care Licensing Division (CCLD) has worked hard to ensure the health and safety of those in care, regardless of the challenges we have had to face due to budgetary constraints over the years. In an effort to address the current fiscal climate, CCLD has maximized resources available and are using data to continuously improve licensing processes.

Setting goals is an important part of any successful business, relationship or endeavor. The ability to meet goals is an indicator that a business is successful! During these difficult economic times, when the dollar is being stretched beyond recognition, we must focus on the things we can control that will make the biggest impact in meeting our goals. We can control what we do, and the attitude we exhibit, as we strive to fulfill our work week as effectively and efficiently as we can.

The Child Care Program (CCP) has set individual, team and office goals to meet the challenge of protecting the health and safety of those in care. This involves adopting measures which encourage quality prevention, compliance, and enforcement activities. Each of our regional offices have established average goals for the number of visits conducted per month, and the number of days devoted to the office to attend to data entry, organization and caseload management. By increasing our efficiency in making visits to facilities, and in providing technical assistance to and consultation with child care providers, we are one step closer to ensuring the health and safety of children in care.

SELF-ASSESSMENT CHECKLISTS

In June, Jo Frederick, Deputy Director, CCLD, sent all licensees a letter regarding their responsibilities as licensed care providers and how licensees and CCLD are aiming for the same goal--protection of the vulnerable people being served in community care settings. Ms. Frederick also stressed how critical it is for licensees to maintain compliance with all licensing requirements.

As part of CCLD's continued efforts to work with licensees to ensure compliance, CCLD developed a checklist covering the most serious violations that come to our attention. These are violations that present immediate or substantial threats to the physical health, mental health, or safety of those in your care. Included in this letter was the checklist, and it was strongly suggested that licensees use the checklist when conducting their own facility inspections. If you did not receive this letter and checklist, you can access them on our website: [Self-Assessment Checklist](#).

ABUSE REPORTING REQUIREMENTS

The CCP has received numerous complaints regarding child abuse allegations where the local law enforcement agencies have not been contacted. California law requires "mandated reporters" to report known or suspected child abuse. Licensees and employees of licensed child care facilities are defined by law as "mandated reporters."

A mandated reporter who has knowledge of, or observes or suspects, a person under 18 years of age being abused or neglected must report the incident to the appropriate local law enforcement agency, county probation, or county welfare agency *immediately or as soon as practicably possible* by telephone, and prepare and send a written report within 36 hours of receiving the information about the incident. The report must include the information described in Penal Code Section 11167(a) and may be submitted on form [SS 8572](#). Failure to make a required report is a misdemeanor punishable by up to six months in jail, a fine of \$1,000, or both.

For more detailed information regarding your reporting requirements, please review the [LIC 9108, Statement Acknowledging Requirement to Report Child Abuse](#).

FIRE/DISASTER DRILLS

Daylight Savings Time ends at 2:00 a.m. on Sunday, November 2, 2008. Don't forget to set your clocks back one hour!

Fire/disaster drills must be practiced with your day care children at least once every six months. Since Daylight Savings Time occurs every six months, this would be a good time to plan your practice drills. And while you are at it, the National Fire Protection Association and the U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission recommend that consumers change the battery in smoke and carbon monoxide detectors too. Although not a licensing requirement, local fire authorities recommend changing smoke detector

batteries twice a year to ensure that detector(s) are always fully functioning in case there is a fire. Some inexpensive detectors may need to be completely replaced about every five years. Also, make sure you dispose of the old batteries and alarms properly. Check with your [local solid waste disposal company or waste management board](#) to find out the best way to dispose of old batteries and detectors.

USE OF OLD CELL PHONES AS TOYS

It has been brought to our attention that some child care facilities are allowing children in care to play with old cell phones. The Legislature passed a law in 2004 (AB 2901), California's Cell Phone Recycling Act, which puts in place a system for the acceptance and collection of used cell phones for reuse, recycling or proper and legal disposal to ensure the safe and environmentally sound disposal of hazardous materials.

Used cellular phones contain hazardous substances and are referred to as electronic hazardous waste (E-Waste). Circuit boards in cellular phones contain arsenic, antimony, beryllium, cadmium, copper, lead, mercury, nickel and zinc. The rechargeable batteries used with cellular phones contain cobalt, zinc and copper. Title 22 Regulations, Sections 102417(d), 101239(q) and 101439(m) require all toys, play equipment, surfaces, fixtures, furniture and supplies be safe and free of toxic substances. Allowing children in care to play with cell phones would be a violation of these regulations.

For additional information and resources regarding hazardous waste and recycling, please refer to the [California Department of Toxic Substances Control](#) and your [local waste management board](#).

USE OF GARAGES AS ADDITIONAL PLAY SPACE IN FAMILY CHILD CARE HOMES (FCCH)

Title 22 Regulation, Section 102352(f)(1) defines a Family Day Care or Family Child Care as regularly providing care, protection and supervision of children, in the caregiver's *own* home. The house next door to the family child care provider, or an unattached building or garage, does not constitute "the caregiver's own home." Health and Safety Code, Section 1597.40(a) specifies, in part, that it is the intent of the Legislature that FCCHs for children be situated in normal residential surroundings so as to give children the home environment which is conducive to healthy and safe development. It is the public policy of this state to provide children in a FCCH the same home environment as provided in a traditional home setting. An unattached building or garage without toilets, kitchen or bedrooms does not provide a traditional home setting. However, unattached buildings and garages may be used *as additional play space* when free access to the house is allowed and all of the following have been met:

- The licensee has not identified the garage area as "off limits" to children in care on the Facility Sketch (Floor Plan), LIC 999A,

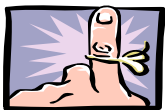
- The garage is free of any health and safety risks for children in care,
- Licensees ensure proper supervision while children are being cared for in multiple areas of the home, including the garage,
- FCCBs caring for up to 14 children have obtained a current fire clearance which includes approval to use the garage as play space for children.

REDUCTION IN HEALTH AND SAFETY TRAINING HOURS



It has been brought to our attention that the American Red Cross, American Heart Association vendors and accredited colleges/universities have reduced their pediatric cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR) and pediatric first aid training hours to 2.5 hours. Historically, pediatric CPR and pediatric first aid training are at least 4 hours each, and the one time only preventative health practice course is at least 7 hours. As a result of the reduction of training hours, licensees and/or other personnel fail to meet the required 15 hours of health and safety training set forth in the Health and Safety Code, Section 1596.866. Therefore, licensees and personnel will be asked to verify the number of training hours received. Acceptable verification is a certificate of completion with training hours listed, publication from the vendor listing the training hours, or a direct call to the vendor.

Licensees and other personnel without the required 15 hours of training will be cited and required to sign up and complete the remaining training hours needed to meet the 15 hour requirement. The requirement can be fulfilled by completing training hours in pediatric CPR, pediatric first aid or a preventative health practice course.



In addition, health and safety training taught by a home study course or online is not acceptable. Training must be taught through in-service training, workshops or classes.

INTEGRATED PEST MANAGEMENT SURVEY

The CCP, the California Department of Pesticide Regulation and the University of California at Berkeley Center for Children's Environmental Health Research are working together to help make indoor environments healthier and safer for children. Two thousand child care centers will be randomly selected to complete a short survey about pesticide use and pest management practices in the facility. Please take a few minutes to complete this important survey. Your answers will help us learn about the kinds of pest problems faced by California child care facilities and the things we can do to help you keep these problems from harming our children. At the end of the survey, you will have a chance to enter a drawing for a \$100 gift certificate to Michaels Craft Store for your child care facility. The survey will be available online on the Integrated Pest Management website for any other facilities that wish to participate:

<http://www.childcareipm.info/>.

BE GREEN! GO ECO-HEALTHY!

Child care providers play a very important role in keeping children healthy by preventing their exposure to toxins. Research increasingly shows that the first years of a child's life are critical in shaping their future health and development. As a child care provider, small changes you make can have a big impact on the children in your care. By reducing toxins, you help prevent illnesses like asthma, certain learning disabilities and even some forms of cancer.

The [Eco-Healthy Child Care Program](#) is a free endorsement program that gives providers easy-to-follow steps and ongoing support to create happy, healthy, safe and green environments to better protect children.

Local Resource and Referral Networks are collaborating with the Eco-Healthy Child Care Program of the [Oregon Environmental Council](#) in an effort to nationalize the program. They are piloting it in California, via the California Child Care Initiative Project (CCIP) and so far there are already 40 CCIP sites in California. To learn more about how you can go eco-healthy, click on the above links or call (503) 222-1963 Ext. 119. Also, please review these helpful resources: [Picking Safer Plastics](#), [Eco-Healthy Child Care Checklist](#), [Become an Eco-Healthy Provider—10 Easy Tips](#).

PREVENTING INJURIES TO CHILDREN IN THE HOME

[Safe Kids Worldwide](#) is a global network of organizations whose mission is to prevent accidental childhood injury, a leading killer of children 14 and under. Safe Kids combines several factors to create programs that reduce injuries by educating adults and children, creating safe environments, conducting research and advocating for effective laws. The CCP is working closely with Safe Kids USA who provides us with child safety information on a regular basis. This Update period, the topic is [Preventing Injuries to Children in the Home](#). Please take a few minutes to review this very useful and important flyer and be sure to visit the [Safe Kids USA](#) website which contains a significant amount of information and resources related to child safety.

HOODED SWEATSHIRTS RECALL

Adio Footwear has recalled about 300 'Champ Custom' hooded fleece sweatshirts. The garments have a drawstring through the hood, which can pose a strangulation hazard to children.

The boy's 'Champ Custom' hooded zip fleece sweatshirt (style # 40305.HZB) is white with blue pin-stripes on the front and red panels on the sides. ADIO is spelled out across the front. The sweatshirt was sold in boys' sizes: small, medium, large and x-large.



The shirts were sold at Tilly's and Bob's stores nationwide from October 2007 through December 2007 for about \$40. They were made in China.

Consumers should immediately remove the drawstrings from the sweatshirts to eliminate the hazard, and return the item to the place of purchase or to Adio Footwear for a full refund.

For additional information, contact Adio Footwear at (800) 995-6069 between 9 a.m. and 5 p.m. ET Monday through Friday.

The recall is being conducted in cooperation with the U.S. [Consumer Product Safety Commission](#).

It is important to stay current on consumer recalls. All too often, consumers don't learn of a recall until it's too late. For up-to-date recall information, visit the California State Department of Consumer Affairs website at: www.consumeraffairs.com and click on "Recalls" at the top of the webpage.

CALIFORNIA CHILDCARE HEALTH PROGRAM--SAFE SLEEP POLICY FOR INFANTS IN CHILD CARE

The University of California San Francisco, California Childcare Health Program (CCHP) is dedicated to enhancing the quality of child care for California's children by linking the health, safety and child care communities and the children they serve. The CCHP provides technical assistance on all general health and safety issues, such as:

- Infectious diseases
- Nutrition
- Special needs
- Early childhood development
- Oral health
- Environmental health
- Staff health

The CCHP multidisciplinary experts include staff from nursing, medicine, early care and education, and epidemiology. CCHP services include:

- Healthline, CCHP's toll-free telephone and email consultation services on child care health topics for child care providers, parents, and health professionals. The Healthline can be accessed at 1-800-333-3212.
- Up-to-date, accessible educational materials on important child care health issues in the form of Health and Safety Notes, Family Fact Sheets, Illness Sheets, and health and safety-related forms and posters.
- A bimonthly newsletter, **Child Care Health Connections**, which provides health

and safety information on a wide variety of health topics. Articles may be copied and broadly distributed (with permission) to child care providers and parents.

- Training programs for health professionals to become Child Care Health Consultants and for child care providers to become Child Care Health Advocates, when funding permits.
- Presentations on a variety of child care health topics at regional and statewide conferences for early childhood education professionals.

The CCHP written materials are available in print form as well as online at www.ucsfchildcarehealth.org; most are also available in Spanish.

Model Safe Sleep Policy for Child Care

The California Childcare Health Program has developed a new Model Safe Sleep Policy for Child Care. This policy is designed to be used in child care settings to reduce the risk of Sudden Infant Death Syndrome (SIDS). SIDS rates are higher in child care than they should be. The Model Safe Sleep Policy provides guidance on how to implement policies and practices that assure that infants are provided with a safe sleeping environment. The Model Safe Sleep Policy is available online at the CCHP website: http://ucsfchildcarehealth.org/pdfs/forms/SafeSleep_policy.pdf

SUDDEN INFANT DEATH SYNDROME - NEW DEVELOPMENT

A study of nearly 500 babies indicated that using a fan to circulate air in a baby's room seemed to lower the risk of SIDS. For more detailed information regarding this report and to learn more about other factors associated with SIDS, click here: [AOL News](#)

GET UP AND GET ACTIVE!

The American Heart Association and the National Football League have teamed up and created a new website full of creative ideas for getting kids active. It's called: ["What Moves U"](#). Kids who sign up can win prizes just for being active! Their website includes some fun worksheets with songs and games to learn about the heart, which are broken down by grade level from Pre-Kindergarten through 8th grade. For more information on the key components of the What Moves U initiative, [click here](#). On the webpage of the [American Heart Association](#), click on the "Children's Health" link for information on children's exercises and nutrition resources; diseases, conditions and treatments; information for parents; and more.

ARE YOU READY TO SHAKEOUT?

With 22 million people living and working in Southern California, a major earthquake in the region could cause an unprecedented catastrophe. What we do now, before a big earthquake, will determine what our lives will be like after. With earthquakes an inevitable part of Southern California's future, Californians must act quickly to ensure

that disasters do not become catastrophes. With this in mind, the Earthquake Country Alliance has organized the Great Southern California ShakeOut, a week of special events featuring a massive earthquake drill at 10:00 a.m. on November 13, 2008.

The ShakeOut drill centers on the [ShakeOut Earthquake Scenario](#), a realistic portrayal of what could happen in a major earthquake on the southern end of the San Andreas Fault. Created by over 300 experts led by Dr. Lucy Jones of the U.S. Geological Survey, the scenario outlines a hypothetical 7.8 magnitude earthquake originating near the Salton Sea, which would have the potential to devastate the region.

With a goal of at least 5 million participants, the ShakeOut drill will be the largest in U.S. history. To participate, go to www.ShakeOut.org/register and pledge your family, school, business, or organization's participation in the drill. Registered participants will receive information on how to plan their drill, connect with other participants, and encourage a dialogue with others about earthquake preparedness. There are many ways to take part, but at the least, participants should "Drop, Cover, and Hold On" at 10:00 a.m. on November 13, 2008. It all begins with registering, which is free and open to everyone.

For more information, visit www.ShakeOut.org and be sure to visit the official ShakeOut Blog at greatsocalshakeout.blogspot.com.

SAFETY TIPS FOR TRICK OR TREATERS

Halloween and Harvest Day can be a very exciting and fun occasion for those families who choose to participate in the festivities. However, a fun night can turn into a very negative experience if certain precautions are not taken to ensure the health and safety of our children during inside activities, as well as on the streets. There are a number of websites that are full of tips and information on costumes, pumpkin carving, home safety, safety on the trick-or-treat trail, and nutrition. Following are a few reliable resources:

The American Academy of Pediatrics:

<http://www.aap.org/advocacy/releases/octhalloween.htm>

The National Safety Council:

<http://www.nsc.org/resources/factsheets/hl/halloween.aspx>

Centers for Disease Control and Prevention: <http://www.cdc.gov/family/halloween/>

The American Red Cross:

<http://www.redcross.org/services/hss/tips/october/octtips.html>

The Food and Drug Administration: <http://www.fda.gov/oc/opacom/kids/treats.html>

LICENSED CHILD CARE STATISTICS

Enclosed are the most recent [statistics on licensed child care facilities and capacities](#). Further breakouts by category and location are available.

SUMMARY

If you have questions about items included in this Update, or suggestions for future topics, please contact Gloria Merk, Program Administrator, at (916) 229-4500. You may also visit our internet website at www.cclcd.ca.gov to obtain copies of licensing Updates, office locations, provider letters, regulations, forms, the Licensing Evaluator Manual, or to learn more about licensing programs and services.

Sincerely,

Original signed by Jo Frederick

JO FREDERICK
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Community Care Licensing Division

Enclosures